

School Board Approves Site Plan for

Plans for construction of an all-weather track at the high

By Jake Hallman

The school board approved the site plan for the middle school 6-3 in Thursday's board of directors meeting.

With the approval, the architects of the project Diserod Wolff Kelly Clough and Bucher Inc. (DWKCB), will work on a schematic drawing for the new 196,000 square foot school off Montgomery Avenue and continue to work with Upper Hanover Township to start the formal land development process.

The decision to move forward with the new school came after a lengthy debate over renovation verses new construction. Estimates from the district's construction manger, Reynolds Construction, said ren-

ovation to make the current middle school similar to a new one would cost \$35.5 million. Some members of the board, though, questioned the estimate, saying the job could be done for as little as \$12.5 million.

Director John Gehman balked at Reynolds' estimate, saying the numbers were extremely conservative. Gehman cited Reynolds' \$290,000 for asbestos removal as an example of what he deemed inflated figures, saying a previous study estimated asbestos removal at \$16,000.

"To be perfectly honest, this puts a huge question mark on your credibility, as well as your firm," Gehman said.

Director Tom Sands, who opposed the site plan

EPA Says Bally Water Contaminated

By Rod Wood

The EPA has informed Bally Borough and its residents that a test taken on Feb. 18 revealed that their public drinking water is contaminated with 1,4-Dioxane, an unregulated contaminant.

The EPA held a public information meeting at the Bally firehouse last night, Wednesday, March 19, before this newspaper's press deadline. An information sheet on the contamination is available at Bally Borough Hall.

In that public information document, the EPA says the contamination is "not an immediate risk," but it says anyone interested in limiting their risk of exposure should use an alternative source of drinking water. "However, you **do not need** (their emphasis) to use an alternative water supply," the document says.

"EPA classifies 1,4-Dioxane as a probable human carcinogen," the document says. "This means there is sufficient evidence in animals of a link to cancer, but inadequate or no evidence in humans."

The EPA says water samples taken at the Bally water plant indicated levels of 1,2-Dioxane in the range of 20 to 50 parts per billion (ppb). The agency said that the "Superfund Remediation Goal" for such a substance is 6 ppb, which would correspond to an increased estimated cancer risk of one in 1 million. "This means if you consume two liters of this water daily for 30 years, your cancer risk would increase by one in 1,000,000," the document says.

The EPA says that point-of-use de-



Some 65 area people gathered for an hour Sunday night on the Square in Pennsburg for a candlelight peace vigil as part of a world wide 24-hour candlelight wave of candlelight that started in New Zealand. Archbishop Desmond T.

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photos by Bob Esposito



SDMS DocID 2050625

Three Area Sus

More than 73/2002 fall semester list, students must possible 4 0 for the hours.

Local students Emily Seibert, Linda Seibert of Eas major, son of Otto Spinnerstown's Alis Norman and Rhonda

Two Area

Sixty-four Mon dean's list at Indiana the 2002-2003 acadet

Jaime L. William cation major, and L.a Hill, mathematics maj

Marlborough Police Chief Says

Marlborough Township Police chief Ray Fluck wants the public to be aware of the 90# phone scam.

As part of the scam, a caller, identifying himself as an AT&T service technician, said he was conducting a test on telephone lines. To complete the test, he told the victim to dial 9, 0 and then the pound sign (#) and then hang up. Chief Fluck said the information was passed on to him from a reliable source.

The phone company said by dialing 90#, the requesting individual gains full access to your telephone line, which enables them to place long distance calls billed to a home phone number. Authorities said this scam has been originating from many local jails and prisons. The information has also been verified with UCB Telecom, Pacific Bell, MCI, Bell Atlantic and GTE, sources said.

Police on Lookout for Burglars

The Marlborough Township Police report that a Gravel Pike, Green Lane home was burglarized in the daytime hours last Friday, March 14.

The police said unknown actors entered the premises at 1411 Gravel Pike, ransacked the bedrooms and stole an unknown amount of jewelry and loose change from the home before fleeing in an unknown direction in an unknown vehicle. The police said the crime occurred sometime between 7:20 a.m. and 4:55 p.m.

Call 215-234-9161 if you have a tip for the police

Motorcycle Crashes into Car

The driver of a motorcycle and his passenger were both injured in a crash last Sunday, March 16, at the intersection of Route 63 and the Upper Ridge Road, according to the Marlborough Township Police.

The police said the accident occurred when Peter Engelman, 25, of Schwenksville, pulled out from Upper Ridge Road to cross over Route 63 as Steven Boyd, 42, of Souderton, was traveling northbound on Route 63 on a motorcycle. The police said the motorcycle crashed into the side of Engelman's Dodge Durango.

Boyd was injured in the crash, police said, and was transported to Lehigh Valley Hospital for severe injuries. His passenger, Joanne Smith, 39, of Quakertown, was also injured in the crash and was transported to Grand View Hospital, the police said.

Engelman was not injured and was able to drive his vehicle away from the scene the police said.

Bally Water,

continued from front page

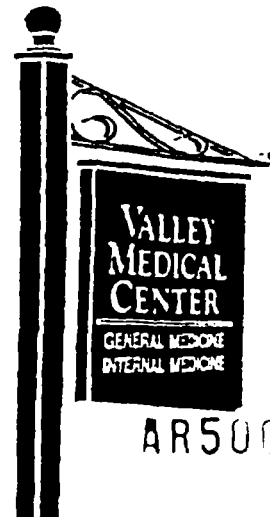
vices such as carbon filters do not remove 1,4-Dioxane, and that Bally Borough, the EPA and American Household, Inc "are involved in an ongoing investigation and are evaluating various options,"

which may include drilling a new municipal well.

In the meantime residents can find out more about the matter by calling the borough at 610-845-2351

ACCEPTING NEW PAT

VALLEY MEDICAL



**Priscilla J. Benne
Kathy M. Gotwal
Rebecca Howe,**

**215-679-8
at Geryville P**

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